



News Advisory

For Immediate Release
Monday, May 8, 2006
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UDOH and Safety Net Providers Look at Ways to Help the Uninsured and Underinsured in Utah

- WHAT:** The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) and Safety Net health care providers will meet to discuss the health care needs of the uninsured and underinsured in Utah. Safety Net is a system of community health clinics and non-profit groups providing health care to low-income Utahns and other vulnerable populations due to geographic, culture, and language barriers. Using data recently collected, they will look at the contribution that Safety Net providers are making and ways to strengthen the system.
- WHY:** In 2005, about one in four Utahns could not get health care. An estimated 292,800 (11.6 percent) Utahns did not have health care insurance and another 310,000 (13.9 percent) Utahns had a problem accessing health care. Safety Net programs provide essential services to the uninsured and underinsured. To meet the ever-growing need, Safety Net providers and the UDOH are working together to find ways to improve the Safety Net system.
- WHO:** Dr. David Sundwall, UDOH Executive Director
Dr. Marc Babitz, UDOH Division of Health Systems Improvement Director
Utah Safety Net Health Care Providers
- WHEN:** Tuesday, May 9, 2006
8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- WHERE:** Utah Department of Health
Cannon Health Building
288 N. 1460 West, Salt Lake City
Room 125

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